

(a) the losses incurred by UCO Bank, New Bank of India and Punjab and Sind Bank during 1990-91 and first half of 1991-92;

(b) the reasons therefore

(c) the action taken to prevent losses in future; and

(d) the performance of nationalised banks vis-a-vis foreign banks and private sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). As per the published accounts for the year 1990-91, UCO Bank, New Bank of India and Punjab and Sind Bank have shown losses of Rs. 42.96 crores, Rs. 45.00 crores and Rs. 5.45 crores respectively. The accounts for the year 1991-92 of all public sector banks including these banks will be closed on 31st March, 1992

The operational losses are primarily due to deficiencies in their credit administration at the appraisal and post sanction stages.

(c) Government and Reserve Bank of India have taken a series of measures to improve the performance and profitability of the public sector banks including these banks. These include augmentation of their capital, rationalisation of service charges and interest rates structure and levy of commitment charges on unutilised portion of operating limits. Banks have also been advised to take measures to control expenditure on consumption of petroleum, publicity etc., draw up action plans to improve their operational efficiency and take steps to strengthen their viability and profitability by means of effective business planning and development.

(d) The better performance of foreign banks is comparison to public sector banks could be attributed, among other things, to their concentration in metropolitan and port

towns, mechanisation and computerisation of operations, lower priority sector lending and higher level of non-fund business.

Selection of Officers and Staff of DGS & D for Transfer

5006. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of ad hoc procurement is proposed to be transferred from DGS & D to concerned indenting Ministries/Departments along with officers and staff engaged in such work;

(b) if so, the criteria followed in selection of such officers and staff for the transfer; and

(c) whether such transfer will be for short period or on permanent basis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Yes Sir. Orders have been issued transferring ad hoc procurement from DGS & D to the indenting Ministries/Departments concerned. The criteria followed is to transfer the officers and staff hitherto engaged in such ad hoc procurement work to the indenting Ministries/Departments along with the work. These transfers are of inter-ministerial or inter-departmental nature excepting in some cases providing for absorption. The Department of Supply will continue to be the cadre controlling authority for officers belonging to the Indian Supply Service.

Privatisation of Major Ports

5007. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any specific proposals from private